

May 29, 2024 | Flash Brief

Three Israeli Soldiers Killed by Explosion in Booby-Trapped Gaza Building



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Latest Developments

Three Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers were **killed** on May 28, when a booby trap exploded in a building in Rafah. In a statement the following day, the IDF named the fallen as Staff Sgt. Amir Galilov, 20; Staff Sgt. Uri Bar Or, 21; and Staff Sgt. Ido Appel, 21. In a separate incident, four soldiers were **wounded**, one of them seriously, in a booby-trapped tunnel in southern Gaza.

Since the Hamas atrocities in southern Israel on October 7, 2023, 639 Israeli soldiers have been killed, **291** of them during the ground operations in Gaza, which began on October 27.

Expert Analysis

“Hamas and other terrorist groups are attempting to increase their attacks on Israeli troops in Gaza. The terrorist groups booby-trap buildings, tunnels, and other sites as they continue to lose ground to Israel’s anti-terror operations. It is essential that Israel be supported in its efforts to defeat Hamas and remove terrorist threats and infrastructure from the Gaza Strip.” — **Seth J. Frantzman**, *FDD Adjunct Fellow*

“By launching guerrilla attacks, Palestinian terrorist groups aim to create for Israel a sense of uncertainty and instability, which they then amplify by leveraging international pressure from countries sympathetic to their cause. This dual-pronged approach seeks to thwart Israel’s goal of removing Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups from power in the Gaza Strip.” — **Joe Truzman**, *Senior Research Analyst at FDD’s Long War Journal*

Israeli Forces Find Rocket Launch Sites in Jabalya

Israeli forces operation in the northern Gaza neighborhood of Jabalya **found** rocket launch sites, Ynet reported on May 29. “According to the IDF, during a brigade-level attack on a new sector, the combat team raided dozens of rocket launch sites, destroyed the launchers and neutralized the sites,” the report noted. Additionally, soldiers from other units **demolished** tunnels and raided a site terrorists had used near a mosque, “uncovering dozens of weapons, bomb-making components in suitcases, grenades, military equipment and ammunition.” Israeli National Security Advisor Tzachi Hanegbi **said** on May 29 that Israel is now in control of 75 percent of the Philadelphi Corridor, the area in Gaza that runs along the Egyptian border.

Related Analysis

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